

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TANANA 02070 212117Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /054 W
----- 084987 /71

R 210846Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8695
INFO AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 2070

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MA, SE
SUBJECT: REPORTED RATSIRAKA/MANCHAM COMMENTS ON DIEGO GARCIA

REF: STATE 304921

1. ACCORDING TO DEC 14 EDITION OF THE FRENCH-LANGUAGE DAILY MADAGASCAR MATIN, PRESIDENT RATSIRAKA, IN GREETING PRESIDENT MANCHAM OF THE SEYCHELLES, SAID, AMONG OTHER THINGS: "I AM ...HAPPY TO GREET YOU FOR WE HAVE A COMMON PAST AS COLONIZED COUNTRIES. AND FOR ANOTHER REASON, SOLIDARITY BETWEEN ISLAND NATIONS. WE HAVE AN IMPORTANT POSITION IN THE CENTER OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AND WE MILITATE IN FAVOR OF AN INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE, FOR THE DISMANTLING OF THE MILITARY BASE AT DIEGO GARCIA. ALL THAT MUST LEAD US TO COLLABORATE AND TO STRENGTHEN OUR FRIENDSHIP."

2. IN RESPONDING, PRESIDENT MANCHAM SAID, IN PART, "REGARDING THE INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE, I ASSURE YOU THAT I WILL BE YOUR COLLABORATOR, FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF THE SEYCHELLES ASPIRE TO THE SAME IDEAL. I WISH FOR PEACE AND STABILITY IN MADAGASCAR, FOR IT IS OF PRIME IMPORTANCE FOR THIS WHOLE ZONE. CONCERNING SOLIDARITY BETWEEN ISLAND NATIONS, THERE ARE RECIPROCAL ADVANTAGES IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TANANA 02070 212117Z

COLLABORATING. BEFORE, OUR TWO COUNTRIES WERE ISOLATED. THERE WERE NO COMMUNICATIONS." HE THEN DISCUSSED THE INAUGURATION OF AIR SERVICE BETWEEN MADAGASCAR AND THE SEYCHELLES. LATER, IN A PRESS CONFERENCE, HE GAVE A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-TYPE PRESENTATION ON THE HISTORY OF THE SEYCHELLES AND TOUTED HIS COUNTRY AS A "FISCAL PARADISE",

PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF ITS LACK OF DEFENSE SPENDING, MAKING
THE SEYCHELLOIS "FRIENDS OF EVERYONE, AND ENEMIES OF NO ONE."

3. WHILE RATSIRAKA APPEARED TO BE ANGLING FOR MANCHAM TO
JOIN PUBLICLY IN MILITATING FOR THE DISMANTLING OF DIEGO
GARCIA, MANCHAM IGNORED THE INVITATION AND GOT ON WITH HIS
PROMOTION OF THE SEYCHELLES. ALTHOUGH RATSIRAKA HAD POINTEDLY
SAID "WE", MANCHAM DECLINED TO JOIN THE ANTI-DIEGO GARCIA
MOVEMENT. NO COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED.
SMITH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PEACE, DIEGO GARCIA, MEETINGS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TANANA02070
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760468-1066
From: TANANARIVE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761222/aaaaatid.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 304921
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <12 OCT 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED RATSIRAKA/MANCHAM COMMENTS ON DIEGO GARCIA
TAGS: PFOR, MA, SE, XO, (RATSIRAKA, DIDIER), (MANCHAM, JAMES RICHARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006